

**NEWS from the North Dakota Department of Human Services
600 East Boulevard Avenue – Department 325, Bismarck ND 58505-0250**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 9, 2011

Contact: Heather Steffl, Public Information Officer, 701-328-4933

North Dakota Olmstead Commission to meet September 13 in Bismarck

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Olmstead Commission is meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 2011, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., at the Comfort Inn, 1030 E. Interstate Ave., Bismarck, N.D. The public is welcome to attend.

Established by Gov. John Hoeven in 2001, the commission's name and purpose are derived from the U.S. Supreme Court decision in *Olmstead vs. L.C.*, which addresses discrimination under the Americans with Disabilities Act and supports community-based services and community living options for people with disabilities.

Agenda items include a brief orientation overview of Olmstead for new Commission members, Olmstead Plan-related accomplishments, Transition Task Force report, HIT Inc. and other community-provider project updates, community-based mental health services report, an update from the Medical Services Division of the N.D. Department of Human Services including a briefing on the implementation of the Money Follows the Person grant, plan revision next steps, and other business.

The N.D. Department of Human Services complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who need accommodations, including appropriate auxiliary aids, to participate or anyone who has questions can contact Heather Steffl at 701-328-4933 or hsteffl@nd.gov, or through Relay ND at 800-366-6888.

The governor's Health and Human Services Policy Advisor Tami Ternes and N.D. Department of Human Services Executive Director Carol K. Olson co-chair the commission. Members are appointed by the governor.

Commission information is on-line at www.nd.gov/dhs/info/olmstead-commission.html.

###